

CITY COMMISSION MEETING

MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 24, 2014

6:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION

PRESENT:

Maria Lowe, Mayor
Melinda Pletcher, Vice Mayor
Terri Finnerty, Commissioner
Rick Falkenstein, Commissioner
Gregory Premer, Commissioner

ALSO PRESENT:

Elaine Edmunds, Interim City Manager
Andrew Dickman, City Attorney
Rebecca C. Haynes, City Clerk
Jennifer McMahon, Recreation Director
Phyllis Ruscella, Library Administrator

1. Presentations

a. CPO Dave Mancusi

This item was removed from the agenda.

2. Changes to the Agenda

Interim City Manager Edmunds requested to move Items 6(a) and 6(b) to the beginning of the agenda after Item #3.

3. Audience Comments

Rosemary Manning, 1st Avenue, welcomed Andrew Dickman as the new city attorney and suggested hiring additional staff to decrease the timeline for installing the Bayway Bridge landscaping.

Jeff Adams, contractor in St. Pete Beach, discussed the Pinellas County clean air quality requirement included in the permitting process for remodeling and remediation projects.

Deborah Schechner, Boca Ciega Isle Drive, welcomed the new city attorney, and discussed the Bayway Landscaping and communities she visited.

Paul Pfister, Gulf Boulevard, discussed the responsibility of filling potholes and the beautification program in District 1.

6. Ordinances

a. Ordinance 2014-08, Final Reading and Public Hearing, an ordinance of the City of St. Pete Beach, Florida adopting a final millage rate for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015 and providing for an effective date.

Interim City Manager Edmunds noted the proposed ordinance is required to be read in its entirety.

Commissioner Finnerty moved to approve Item 6(a), Ordinance 2014-08, an ordinance of the City of St. Pete Beach, Florida; establishing the ad valorem tax levy of 3.1500 mills for the general fund for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2014 and ending September 30, 2015; providing for an effective date be approved on final reading; adopting a final millage rate for the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2015; providing for an effective date; THE CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH, FLORIDA, DOES ORDAIN:

Section 1. That a millage levy of 3.1500 general and operative levy is hereby fixed and adopted for the fiscal year of the City ending on September 30, 2015 and shall be placed upon the total taxable assessed valuation of property of any kind liable for and subject to taxation by the City of St. Pete Beach, Florida, including real and personal property, lying within the City of St. Pete Beach, Florida.

Section 2. Said monies as raised by the levy of 3.1500 mills, estimated at \$6,692,675 shall be used for the general operation of the City of St. Pete Beach including, but not limited to, salaries, insurance and energy costs and transfers for capital projects for the afore-mentioned fiscal period.

Section 3. The fiscal year 2015 operating millage rate of 3.1500 mills is higher than the rolled-back rate of 2.6823 mills by 17.44%.

Section 4. That a certified copy of this ordinance shall be forwarded to the Property Appraiser of Pinellas County, Florida, together with a request that the aforementioned levies be made by her office on behalf of the City of St. Pete Beach for the Fiscal Year 2014-2015.

Section 5. This ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its final passage.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Falkenstein.

Mayor Lowe called for audience comments.

There being no audience comments, Mayor Lowe called for the vote.

The motion was unanimously approved by an individual roll call vote.

b. Ordinance 2014-09, Final Reading and Public Hearing, an ordinance of the City of St. Pete Beach, Florida adopting a budget for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015; providing appropriations and providing for an effective date.

Commissioner Finnerty moved to approve Item 6(b), an ordinance of the City of St. Pete Beach, Pinellas County, Florida; adopting a budget for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2014 and ending September 30, 2015; providing appropriations; and providing an effective date be approved on final reading. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Premer.

Mayor Lowe called for audience comments.

There being no audience comments, Mayor Lowe called for the vote.

The motion was unanimously approved by an individual roll call vote.

4. Consent

a. Approval of minutes from the August 4 and August 11, 2014 City Commission Budget Workshop Meetings; the August 12, 2014 City Commission Special and Regular Meetings.

b. Authorization for the Interim City Manager to enter into an agreement with Public Risk Management of Florida for renewal of the City insurance policies covering the period from 10/01/2014 to 09/30/2015 in the amount of \$488,075.00.

Ms. Edmunds reviewed Consent Items 4(a) and 4(b) and recommended approval as presented.

Vice Mayor Pletcher moved to approve Consent Items 4(a) and 4(b) as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Finnerty.

Mayor Lowe called for audience comments.

There being no audience comments, Mayor Lowe called for the vote.

The motion was unanimously approved by an individual roll call vote.

5. Action Items

a. Authorization to approve special event application and street closure for Bayway Bridge 5K on Friday, October 17, 2014. Closures would be one block of Pass-a-Grille Way between Cabrillo Avenue and 32nd Avenue from 6:45 p.m. - 7:45 pm.

Jennifer McMahon noted the route will cross Pinellas Bayway, down East Maritana and cross Gulf Boulevard at 37th Avenue beginning at 7:00 p.m. The surrounding homeowners will be notified and impact letters will be distributed.

Commissioner Premier moved to approve Item 5(a), to authorize the approval of the Bayway Bridge Bash 5K event application and street closure for Friday, October 17, 2014. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Pletcher.

Mayor Lowe called for audience comments.

There being no audience comments, Mayor Lowe called for the vote.

The motion was unanimously approved by an individual roll call vote.

b. Application for Conditional Use - Parking Lot (Commercial, Property Location: 5195 Gulf Boulevard, Folio #: 06-32-16-08136-000-0270, Owner/Applicant: Nicklaus of Florida, Inc., Case No. 2014-0036.)

David Healey, Planning Consultant, recommended the item be tabled for the following reasons: to amend and supplement the application, to re-advertise the public hearing notice, and to allow the current use to continue until a decision is made at the October 28, 2014 public hearing.

It was the consensus of the Commission to maintain the status quo until October 28, 2014.

7. Resolutions

There were no resolutions presented.

8. Items for Discussion

There were no items for discussion presented.

9. Audience Comments

Kathy Collins, 51st Avenue, discussed the high water line re-adoption as it relates to trash on the beach.

10. City Clerk, Interim City Manager, City Attorney and City Commission Reports

City Clerk Haynes reported on the new recording system and training that will take place the first week in October, provided an update on the records management system and noted she will be attending the Florida Association of City Clerks Fall Academy on October 12, 2014 through October 16, 2014 and will be absent for the October 14th Commission meeting.

City Manager Edmunds reported that the Planning Board will review the mean high water line issue at their November meeting and requested to set meetings with the Commissioners, City Attorney and Planning Consultants prior to that meeting. Ms. Edmunds provided an update on the meeting schedule and priority projects/topics, the October Concert Series in Horan Park on Friday evenings and the city manager search process.

Commissioners further discussed a timeline of the Pass-A-Grille Way reconstruction project with citizen input and an update from the Public Services Director, a proposed outdoor dining ordinance, code enforcement processes, a proposed nuisance ordinance, the current sign ordinance and a CRA workshop.

City Attorney Dickman provided an updated transition schedule and discussed individual meetings with residents and Commissioners.

Mayor Lowe reported that she received two telephone calls from attorneys involved in matters that may come before the Commission and requested guidance from City Attorney Dickman on how to proceed.

Commissioner Falkenstein requested direction on participating in a round-table discussion with elected officials in the surrounding area regarding Boca Ciega Bay.

Vice Mayor Pletcher reported on the Chamber of Commerce Ambassador meeting that she sponsored and thanked City Clerk and IT staff for their assistance.

Commissioner Premier reported on emails he received expressing gratitude regarding the resolution of vehicle parking near the Hotel Zamora, the October Concert series in Horan Park, the Community Yard Sale on Saturday at the Community Center, road conditions around the Don Cesar, seawalls in need of repair, the re-opening of The Compass Point restaurant at the Sirata Beach Resort, and the college fair scheduled for Sunday at USF St. Pete from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at which time 80 colleges will be represented.

Commissioner Falkenstein requested contacting Don Cesar representatives regarding dumping trash into the Gulf after the beach is raked. He reported on Paddle for Paws scheduled for Saturday in Hurley Park, ticketing owners of dogs that are not on their leashes, lights on palm trees, homeless persons at the County Park and the 55th Avenue pump repair. Commissioner Falkenstein requested a status report from Director Hallock regarding the Pass-A-Grille Way reconstruction project.

Commissioner Finnerty thanked the community for their support and prayers helping her through a recent health situation. She discussed her appointment to the Advisory Council for the Gulf Beaches Elementary School and reported on their Fish Broil scheduled for October 18th. Commissioner Finnerty reported on the pedestrian light on Blind Pass Road at 77th Avenue and the palm tree in front of it, encouraged the community to continue corresponding with her via email, noted the St. Pete Beach Support Our Troops will participate in the October concert series, commented that she is looking forward to the city manager selection process and stated the new Sunday Fresh Market will begin its season on October 5th at 10:00 a.m.

Mayor Lowe expressed appreciation for the Wounded Warriors fund-raising project; reported on an upcoming Toys For Tots event, events at Dolphin Landing on behalf of Tampa Bay Watch, the flu season and vaccinations, Bay Pines fundraising event to sponsor gravesite wreaths, the upcoming Bayway Bridge Bash and the 'No Tax for Tracks' promotion. Mayor Lowe expressed admiration to Commissioner Finnerty.

11. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Attest:



Rebecca C. Haynes, City Clerk



Maria Lowe, Mayor

Minutes approved on: 10/14/2014